

Nicholas Sheran School Parent Council Meeting
November 17th, 2021

Call to order 6:31pm - Tisha Elford

Welcome & Introductions - in attendance via TEAMS – Dawn Walmsley, Stephen Woodcock, Tisha Elford, Jeanine Miklos, Rachel Harding, Kristina Hurkens, Allison Purcell, Locke Spencer, Carrie Boschman

Approval of Agenda – Kristina Hurkens

Approval of previous meeting Minutes - Kristina Hurkens

New Business – signing authority done at the bank today. Tisha Elford asked for a motion to change the name at the bank to Nicholas Sheran Elementary School Parent Council, Kristina Hurkens motioned, Jeanine Miklos seconded. Tisha asked for a motion to change the April Parent Council Meeting in April from Easter break to the 27th, Rachel motioned, Locke seconded.

Reports:

a. Admin Report: Dawn Walmsley and Stephen Woodcock

Dawn:

- Increased staffing - We were able to hire Mrs. Rhodes to teach grade 5 fulltime. Now 3 full time grade 5 teachers. Mrs. Siewert will be teaching grade 3 fulltime. Mrs. Smith made the decision to move to teaching grade 3 in the mornings only. Mrs. Thompson has been hired to teach the Boost program (Literacy Intervention for 8 weeks and then 8 weeks of Numeracy intervention starting with grade 2 and 3 students. Grade one students will hopefully be starting their interventions in January. The Alberta Government has provided funding to help students with lagging skills because of disrupted schooling. The division was able to hire a total of 7 FTE teachers to work with students with the lowest scores in Literacy and Numeracy. We have been given additional funding to hire another Educational Assistant to provide support in grades 1-5.
- After balancing our budget, we have been approved for Gym curtain and painting.
- 4 PSI practicum students from the U of L - Nov 15-Dec16 - will take over bulletin boards featuring student work- students will vote for the best.
- Angel tree is happening – deadline is November 30th to register and our school is a drop off location. Our student support worker Jen Robinson has been contacting families that were previously involved in this as well as new referrals. Please contact Jen if you know someone or if you are a family that could benefit from this program.
- Report Cards are coming up. They will be available online on Friday Nov. 26th. Please remember if you have questions regarding your child's progress at any point of the year you can connect with our teachers by email or leave a message by phone and they will get back to you. Can also contact Steve or Dawn.
- We are continuing to focus on using the outdoors as a resource. Please make sure you send your child(ren) in appropriate clothing for being outside. Kids need fresh air and unstructured

time outside. If you need or are aware of someone else needing help with clothing please contact Jen Robinson, our student support worker, as there is Poverty Intervention Funds to help out with this.

- The Loop is a resource is our newsletter with dozens of agencies and parent information sessions, counselling, outdoor plan, LGBTQ+ resources, etc.

Steve:

- Remembrance Day Assembly via TEAMS that included Indigenous contributions and animal contributions. As a whole school we had the students create Metis inspired Poppies on rocks and spread them around the park- pictures shared.

- Metis Week (Rock Your Mocs Week) - Miss Morrow, the Indigenous Elementary Teacher drew flowers on the Learning Commons windows and the students are creating Metis dot art. Students are enjoying it.

- Blackfoot number line – shared picture – there is one set in every classroom (1-10 in grades 1-3 and 1-10 and by 10s from 30-50 for grade 4 & 5).

- Nice notes- bulletin board picture shared – random notes are shared on morning TEAMS announcements.

- Collaboration Challenge – picture shared – students get first set of coordinates, they work together to find the rock and return with a code word to receive a prize. December challenge regarding Responsibility will be shared soon.

- Farm Credit Canada – Drive Away Hunger- \$1000 donation appreciated to support students with breakfast and bagged lunches.

b. Treasurer Report: Angie Fuentes Ramirez not able to make it tonight – Tisha: Everything is up to date, waiting for signing authority. Purchased basketball nets, 3 sensory resources (2 to Nikki's Den and one will be in Inclusive bag), staff appreciation gifts so far.

c. Division School Council Report: Locke – last meeting was 2 weeks ago, discussion on appropriate literature content, vaccinations and Covid protocols, Covid contact communication, Virtual Literacy Training on December 6th, Inclusive Resource bags. Tisha - \$500 community engagement funds for parent engagement meetings. Carrie – ASCA funds and how they can be spent, submit ideas on how to utilize the \$500.

d. Special Events Report: Tisha - Christmas Caroling Event December 10th?! Dawn suggested a Thursday as some students don't attend Fridays. Tisha set the date to the 9th. Each student sent home with hot chocolate pkg and candy cane from Parent Council/Santa wishing them a happy holiday season. Bootsma Donut Day is November 25th (\$2.70 profit per donut) - 194 purchased so far, closes tomorrow at 10pm. Have 5 volunteers to help deliver donuts.

Old Business: Need cheque from Society. Locke has all of the information and will set up signing authorities soon. Tisha followed up on Accessible Recess bag grant – Kristina is requesting grant for \$300 per elementary school for the bags.

New Business: Happy Birthday Mr. W! ASCA virtual engagement event – is there a volunteer to attend on November 27th from 1-4pm? Topics include the current education environment, curriculum draft from K-6, council engagement grants, the Assurance Framework and ASCA's proposed advocacy resolution process. Jeanine will send out email to request volunteers from our school. More than 1 is okay – Allison Purcell added it is \$25 each but the school board pays for the registration fees. It's a virtual meeting and it is possible the minister will be there.

Trustee Report: Allison Purcell – highlights are sent out to Parent Council, highlighted that at the last board meeting they discussed a letter to be sent out regarding the shortage of doctors and advocacy in our community, the impact that our students and families have when they don't have access to doctors and supports. Went for coffee with Sarah Coffman last Sunday, the education critic, and brought up our community concerns and some highlights. Also mentioned our community concerns and highlights to the Minister of Education, Adriana Lagrange later that week. Will be meeting with our local MPs. Trustee highlights are on the website.

Future Meeting Dates - (No meeting in December)/ January 19th / (February Town Hall meeting) / March 16th / April 27th / May 18th / June 15th

Motion to adjourn/second - Jeanine motioned to adjourn, seconded by Locke at 7:13pm